

A

REVIEW

OF THE

STATE

OF THE

BRITISH NATION.

Saturday, May 7. 1709.

I Gave you in my last, a Few of the Multitude of haughty Inscriptions, Motto's, and Medals of the *French King's*, which have appear'd in the World, by Way of Addition to his promis'd Glory; I cannot quit it, without putting you in Mind of one or two more. and then I shall touch the Reverse.

At the Time of his Eruption into *Holland*, when, without any Provocation by the *Dutch*, any Satisfaction demanded, or any War declar'd, he fell into that Country like a Flood, you have his Actions compar'd to the Ways of God— In a Medal struck in the Year 1672, the King is represented in the Chariot of the Sun; running his Race round the World, and with the same Velocity of Motion, flying from one Conquest to another, having 12 Cities of *Holland*, which surrender'd to him in 12 Days, painted in the Circle he rides in, with this Inscription,

SOLISQUE LABORES.

On

On the general View of his Conquests, another Medal was form'd in the Year 1679, representing a Crown of Turrets, on a Trophy of Cannon—— And expressing two hundred Cities conquer'd by the Arms of *Louis Le Grand*, with this Inscription,

AU VAINQUER ETERNEL,
To the Eternal Conqueror.

Another Inscription you have at the Building the *Louvre*, and written on the *Frise* of the Building,

Majestati ac Aeternitati Gallici Imperii,
To the Majesty and Eternity of the *French* Empire.

But above all, a Medal struck upon the Extirpation of the Protestant Religion in *France*, in Honour of the Service done the Church—— On the one Side is the Figure of the King on Horse-back with his Troops, ravaging the Protestant Countries; on the Reverse, the King trampling a Monster under his Feet, representing Heresie, with this Inscription,

QUIS CONTRA NOS, LUDOVICUS NOBISCUM?

Another, to testify the Glory of his persecuting his Protestant Subjects—— Has this Representation; Religion crowning the King with a Wreath of Glory—— With this Motto,

Ob vicies Centena Millia Calviniana Ecclesie revocata; 1685,
For having restor'd to the Church two Millions of Calvinists. 1685.

These are a very Few of the publick Inscriptions, Motto's, Medals, and Trophies erected by Way of Triumph to this mighty Monarch, when in his prosperous Circumstances—— We shall by this see, FROM WHAT he is fallen—— Let me a little examine some of the Medals made in other Countries since his declining Fortunes, and by that show you, TO WHAT he is fallen; and I shall close it with a Scheme of his present Circumstances, and the *Jacobites* shall judge for themselves, if this abdicated Glory of *France* can be ever likely to support their Cause or not, which is the End of this whole Enquiry; and if they acknowledge it is not, I hope, they will be so wise to themselves, as to throw up this lost Game, and not play away their Fortunes with their Cause.

I do not say, that I approve of this Method of Sarrying the K. of *France*, a la *Medaille*, any more than I do of his Flatterers dedicating Medal to his Glory; but this may be said for it, that the *French* led the Way, and taught the World to mock them by their own Method—— And Father *Menesier* has been their Instructor.

The

The first I meet with was, when the King of France, finding the Emperor growing strong by his Conquests over the *Turks*, made (as we said) a private League with *Soliman* the Emperor of the *Turks*, and at the same time clap'd up a Truce with *Mexomorto* the Dey of *Algier*, in order to embarrass *Europe*, and check the Imperial Conquests— Upon which he fell into *Germany*, tho' the Truce of 20 Years was not expir'd—And thereby oblig'd the Emperor to divide his Forces, and at last to make the Peace of *Carlowitz* with the *Turks*: The *French* on one hand ravag'd the *Palatinate*, took *Phillipsburgh*, burnt the Castle of *Hidleburgh*, and laid waste all the Country; and on the other hand, the *Algerine* Pirates came into the Channel, took Prizes even in the Mouth of the *Thames*, and were admitted to carry them into the Ports of *France*, as they did three Ships bound from *London* to *Amsterdam* at one time— Upon this Proceeding, the following Medal was made at *Brussels*, King *James* then reigning in *England*.

Four Princes were plac'd at a Council-Table, consulting together for their united Interests, *Soliman* III. the *Turkish* Sultan. *Mexomorto* Dey of *Algier*. *Louis* XIV. King of *France*. And *James* II. King of *England*. And on the Reverse, the Devil, with this Motto,

IN FOEDERE QUINTUS,

The Fifth in the Confederacy.

In another upon the same Occation, the King of *France* is represented buying his League with the *Turks*, and soliciting the *Algerines*.

There is the Grand Seignior and the Dey of *Algier* on one Hand, and the King of *France* with his Bags of Money at their Feet, bowing to them so make a League with him, with this Motto above,

GALLIA SUPPLEX.

France Suppliant.

And under the King of *France* is written,

VIRO IMMORTALI.

To the Immortal Man.

And on the Ring of the Medal, these Words,

Amicus Turcæ,

Amicus Algerinis,

Amicus Barbaris,

Christianorum Usor & Hostis;

A Friend to the *Turks*, *Algerines*, and *Barbarians*,
But an implacable Enemy of the *Christians*.

Upon

Upon the Coming of King *James II.* of *England* into *France*, this most significant Medal was struck, whose Representation has been something Prophetic to *France*.

The King of *France* is represented receiving King *James* into *France*, with this Device over their Heads, *The Moon Eclipsing the Body of the Sun by her Darknes*, with this Inscription.

ORBATA LUCE, LUCIDUM OBSCURAT,

Having lost her own Light, She eclipses the other.

And it has been evident, that the entertaining and espousing the Cause of King *James*, has been one great Cause of the Ruin of the *French* Power, and has most effectually eclips'd his Glory.

I conclude this with another Medal struck at *Frankfort* upon the first Campaign after the Revolution, when the Cities of *Kaisermaert*, *Mentz*, and *Bonn* were taken from the *French*, and upon King *William's* great Success in *Ireland*.

On one Side is King *William*—— A Bust, with the Sun shining in its Meridian-Glory over his Head, with this Inscription,

WILHELMUS MAXIMUS, IN BELGICA LIBERATOR, IN BRITANNIA RESTAURATOR,

William the Great, a Deliverer in Holland, a Restorer in Britain.

On the Reverse is the King of *France* with a Cloud over it, and Thunder breaking out of the Cloud upon his Head, with these Words,

LUDOVICUS MAGNUS, IN GERMANIA BARBARUS, IN GALLIA TYRANNUS,

Lewis the Great, in Germany Barbarous, in France Tyrannical.

If I were to offer a Medal suited to the present Circumstances of the King of *France*, and which, I believe, would be no way indecent or disrespectful to the Dignity of his Person, it should be something like this.

On one Side, The King *a la Châgrin*, with Crowds of his poor starv'd People kneeling to him, with their slavish Hands lifted up, and crying to him for Bread, with this single Motto,

MISERECORDIA,

Have Pity on us.

On the Reverse, The King attended by a Body of Soldiers naked or in Rags, kneeling to the *Dutch* Deputies, and presenting them a Roll of Paper, with this Inscription in *French*,

CHARTÉ BLANCH,

Peace upon any Terms.